

## Wegrzyn, John

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**From:** Wegrzyn, John  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2016 1:25 PM  
**To:** Krawczyk, Keith (DEQ)  
**Cc:** Timothy Fischer (Fischer.Timothy@epa.gov); 'Kline, David (DEQ)'; Devantier, Daria W. (DEQ)  
**Subject:** FW: Second Request: Shiawassee Superfund Site, PCB advisories. Spoke by phone with Mr. Lang this morning.

Keith fyi, I spoke with Mr. Jim Lang the morning of Wednesday, January 20, for approximately a half hour on his concern for information about PCBs in harvested ducks from the Shiawassee River watershed. Our phone conversation was cordial and followed the conceptual lines you and I previously discussed. As we had talked about previously, I principally spoke about human health and ecological risk assessment results discussed in the ROD, the general life histories of waterfowl as related to presumptive exposure, and other factors contributing to the probability that, waterfowl in general were probably not likely to assimilate substantial and significant concentrations of PCBs from the Shiawassee River watershed.

Please give me call if you wish to discuss this item further. FYI, I plan to be away from the office on leave from Monday, January 25 through Tuesday, February 2, to deal with some family medical issues. Hope everything is going well. .... j.

**From:** Wegrzyn, John  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2016 2:13 PM  
**To:** 'Kline, David (DEQ)' <KLINED@michigan.gov>  
**Cc:** Krawczyk, Keith (DEQ) <KRAWCZYKK@michigan.gov>; Devantier, Daria W. (DEQ) <DEVANTIERD@michigan.gov>; Timothy Fischer (Fischer.Timothy@epa.gov) <Fischer.Timothy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Second Request: Shiawassee Superfund Site, PCB advisories

Hi Dave, and thanks very much for your note. Jim Hahnenberg has now officially retired so I'm taking over preparing a response for Mr. Lang. I briefly spoke with Keith about this earlier this week and I was hoping to phone Mr. Lang before this week was out but, in part because of my newness to EPA, I needed to research to what extent I should go through management before reaching out to Mr. Lang. Additionally, I wanted to research what available recent background data and info there was for PCBs contamination in waterfowl in Michigan and for the geographical area in question. As you may expect, there isn't really much if any recent significant data and info for the Shiawassee River area and what does exist is relative to other high profile contaminated areas in Michigan like Kalamazoo River.

My answer to Mr. Lang will therefore be principally based upon the results of the risk assessments formerly prepared for the ROD at Shiawassee River. As such EPA currently doesn't expect substantial or significant human health concerns for PCBs accumulation in waterfowl from historically contaminated areas within the watershed. If we collect new data or information that suggests a change then EPA would certainly pursue that.

I hope to phone Mr. Lang and convey this information to him early next week. I will follow up with you and your staff if there are further significant developments concerning his inquiry. Please contact me if you and your staff have further concerns or if you wish to discuss this item further. Hope this helps some. .... John

**From:** Kline, David (DEQ) [mailto:KLINED@michigan.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2016 1:41 PM  
**To:** Krawczyk, Keith (DEQ) <KRAWCZYKK@michigan.gov>; Wegrzyn, John <Wegrzyn.John@epa.gov>; Devantier, Daria W. (DEQ) <DEVANTIERD@michigan.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Second Request: Shiawassee Superfund Site, PCB advisories

FYI

**From:** Jim Lang [mailto:langsmailbox@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2016 2:40 PM  
**To:** Hahnenberg James; Kline, David (DEQ)  
**Subject:** Second Request: Shiawassee Superfund Site, PCB advisories

I'd be grateful to have an answer to my question. -- JL

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jim Lang** <langsmailbox@gmail.com>  
Date: Tue, Jan 5, 2016 at 3:50 PM  
Subject: Shiawassee Superfund Site, PCB advisories  
To: Hahnenberg James <hahnenberg.james@epa.gov>  
Cc: Kline David <klined@michigan.gov>

James Hahnenberg  
Remedial Project Manager  
U.S. EPA Region 5

Sir:

I'm interested in water quality, especially in Michigan. One particular source of concern is the South Branch of the Shiawassee River, EPA ID# MID980794473, contaminated with PCB.

State of Michigan fish advisories warn the public about eating fish from the South Branch, and I've read that rabbits and deer hunted in the floodplain may be contaminated, too.

However, there has been no mention that I'm aware of concerning the risk to human health from eating wild ducks killed in the Shiawassee watershed.

In past years, I've shot wood ducks in the bottom land of the East Branch (and eaten them), so I know there is a sizable population in the area. I've also seen mallard and teal in these waters and think it likely that other species are present as well.

Wikipedia's section on polychlorinated biphenyls says in part:

"Like many lipiphilic toxins, PCBs biomagnify up the food chain. For instance, ducks can accumulate PCBs from eating fish and other aquatic life from contaminated rivers, and these can cause harm to human health or even death when eaten."

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polychlorinated\\_biphenyl](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polychlorinated_biphenyl)

Can you tell me whether duck hunters are warned of the danger and, if so, how?

Jim Lang  
P.O. Box 1815  
Royal Oak, MI 48068  
248-259-0352

cc: MDEQ Superfund Program